



**FOREST LAKE AREA SCHOOLS
FOREST LAKE, MN 55025**

December 6, 2012

AGENDA ITEM: 10.3

**TOPIC: FIRST READING NEW INDUSTRIAL TECH COURSE:
WELDING AND MACHINING**

BACKGROUND: Through the course of Curriculum Review meetings, the Industrial Technology department has evaluated various offerings in order to provide students a variety of experiences and pathways to careers in the field. As they evaluated the sequence of courses necessary to get to a capstone class in metals, Fabrication, department members realized that revamping the metals sequence would provide a more realistic pathway in the series.

PROCESS: Currently, students who are interested in taking the final course in the metals sequence, Fabrication, are strongly urged to take both the Welding and Machine Tool courses. Department members have realized that many students take the Welding course, but have difficulty fitting the Machine Tool course into their schedule. Teachers have made adjustments in the Fabrication course in order to accommodate students who can't get both prerequisites included in their schedules. By reworking the two previous courses into a new course, Welding and Machining, the department will provide a positive, streamlined approach to the metals curriculum.

A second benefit of this new course will be seen in the area of equipment needed to reach the goals and outcomes of the current Machine Tool course. An equipment update is necessary for the current Machine Tool course and department members are working with members of the community to locate equipment that is current and affordable. The course outline for Welding and Machining will allow the department to rotate students through the learning sequence using one half the amount of equipment as presently required.

RECOMMENDATION: First Reading of New Course: Welding and Machining.